

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1011 Plum Street SE • PO Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525 • (360) 725-4000

March 28, 2014

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN COMMENTS (By Wednesday, April 30, 2014)

and

NOTICE OF WORKSHOP

(To be held Wednesday, May 14, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. in the Legislative Building)

RE: Rulemaking to consider further amendments to WAC 194-37, Energy Independence Act

TO INTERESTED PERSONS:

On January 24, 2014, the Washington Department of Commerce (Commerce) adopted amendments and new sections to WAC 194-37, Energy Independence Act. [Washington State Register 14-04-015] The rules took effect on February 24, 2014. This action concluded the first phase of Commerce's review of the EIA rules. During this phase stakeholders identified other potential changes to Chapter 194-37 WAC. Commerce is now seeking input on topics or specific rule amendments that stakeholders wish to address in Phase 2 of the rulemaking.

The Phase 2 rulemaking inquiry is part of a proceeding initiated on August 21, 2013, when Commerce filed with the Code Reviser a Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101) to initiate a rulemaking to consider amending and adopting rules in WAC 194-37, Energy Independence Act. This notice was published as Washington State Register 13-17-117.

POTENTIAL PHASE 2 ISSUES

The attached document identifies a range of issues that stakeholders may wish to discuss during Phase 2. It includes:

- 1. Changes to the Energy Independence Act enacted by the Legislature in 2014.
- 2. Stakeholder comments on the Phase 1 proposed rule where Commerce's response indicated that an issue was still open.

3. A list of the WAC 194-37 rule sections that were not substantively amended during Phase 1.

Commerce has prepared this document to assist stakeholders in identifying remaining or new issues for discussion. It is not meant to suggest that any particular rule revision is required or to limit the scope of potential issues.

WRITTEN COMMENTS

Commerce requests interested persons submit comments on Phase 2 topics and proposed rule amendments **Wednesday**, **April 30**, **2014**. Comments should be provided in electronic format to enhance public access, for ease of providing comments, to reduce the need for paper copies, and to facilitate quotations from the comments. Comments may be submitted via electronic mail to EIA@commerce.wa.gov. Commerce will post all comments on its EIA rulemaking page accessible at: commerce.wa.gov/EIA.

WORKSHOP

Commerce will conduct a stakeholder workshop on **Wednesday, May 14, 2014, 1:30 pm.** at Olympia, Washington. The workshop will take place in the House Rules Room at the west end of the 1st floor of the Legislative Building (Capitol). A building map is available here: http://www.leg.wa.gov/LIC/Documents/Maps/LEG_BLDG_MAP.pdf

FURTHER INFORMATION

Please direct any questions regarding this rulemaking inquiry to Glenn Blackmon at <u>EIA@commerce.wa.gov</u> or by telephone at 360 725-3115.